

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 06891 180328Z

67

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 NEA-10 SSO-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5111

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 6891

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, PO,PT, ID, AS

SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE TIMOR-UN SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

REF: (A) USUN 6845(NOTAL); (B) USUN 6851 (NOTAL); (C)

USUN 6840 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: IN CONSIDERING PORTUGUESE TIMOR, UN SECURITY COUNCIL (UNSC) DECEMBER 16 HEARD REPRESENTATIVES OF CHINA, AUSTRALIA, AND PORTUGAL AS WELL AS OF PORTUGUESE TIMORAN POLITICAL PARTIES UDT, APODETI, AND KOTA. CHINA ATTACKED INDONESIA FOR "STRANGLING NEW-BORN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF EAST TIMOR". OTHERS STRESSED NEED FOR SELF-DETERMINATION WITH ASSISTANCE OF UN. NEXT UNSC MEETING SET FOR DECEMBER 18, WHEN NON-ALIGNED MAY SURFACE RESOLUTION TAKING BOTH PORTUGAL AND INDONESIA TO TASK. END SUMMARY.

2. UNSC MET DECEMBER 16 TO CONTINUE CONSIDERATION OF THE SITUATION IN TIMOR. SC HEARD CHINA (PERM REP HUANG HUA); UDT (CARRASCALAO (REF C)); APODETI (GONCALVES (REF C));
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USUN N 06891 180328Z

KOTA (MARTINS (REF C)); AUSTRALIA (PERM REP HARRY);

PORTUGAL (PERM REP GALVAO TELES); AND INDONESIA (PERM REP SANI).
LATTER SPOKE VERY BRIEFLY TO RESERVE RIGHT TO REPLY TO GALVOA TELES.

3. HUANG HUA, PREDICTABLY, DELIVERED SHARP, IF RELATIVELY BRIEF, ATTACK ON INDONESIA. HE SAID IN PART: "THE INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT'S NAKED AGGRESSION AGAINST THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF EAST TIMOR HAS FULLY REVEALED ITS WILD AMBITION TO EXTERMINATE THE PARTIOTIC FORCES OF THE PEOPLE OF EAST TIMOR, STRANGLE THE NEW-BORN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF EAST TIMOR AND THUS REALIZE ITS LONG PREMEDIATED SCHEME OF ANNEXING EAST TIMOR".

4. OF THE THREE TIMORAN SPEAKERS, MARTINS, WHO SPOKE IN ENGLISH, GAVE THE MOST EXTENSIVE ACCOUNT OF EVENTS IN PORTUGUESE TIMOR. HE CHOKED UP VISIBLY WHEN DESCRIBING FETILIN ATROCITIES. HE CONCLUDED...WE STRONGLY DESIRE THAT THE PROCESS (OF DECOLONIZATION) BE IMPLEMENTED AND THAT ALL OF THE PEOPLE OF EAST TIMOR, INCLUDING THOSE WHO ARE MEMBERS OF FREILIN, BE ABLE TO EXERCISE FREELY THEIR RIGHT TO DETERMINE THEIR OWN POLITICAL FUTURE IN THE PROCESS.." GONCALVES SAID IN PART: APODETI IS CONFIDENT THAT THE UNITED NATIONS, THROUGHT ITS REPRESENTATIVE ORGANS, WILL MAKE AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO ENABLING THE PEOPLE OF TIMOR TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES FREELY. I COME FROM EAST TIMOR, BUT AT THIS TIME I FEEL LIKE A CITIZEN OF INDONESIA AND AM EXTREMELY PROUD TO BE SO." CARRASCALAO SAID IN PART: AS SOON AS BETTER CONDITIONS FOR PEACE AND ORDER ARE ACHIEVED, THE PEOPLE SHALL BE GRANTED THEIR RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION WITH THE ASSISTANCE AND UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE UNITED NATIONS." HE CONTINUED THAT"IF PERCHANCE INDONESIAN TROOPS ARE FORCED TO LEAVE THE TERRITORY OF EAST TIMOR, THEN THE SITUATION WILL CERTAINLY BECOME MUCH MORE CHAOTIC. UDT WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH A DECISION."

5. HARRY STRESSED FOLLOWING:

- A) UNSC SHOULD PROPOSE PRACTICAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS TO ENABLE EXERCISE OF RIGHTS OF SELF-DETERMINATION IN PORTUGUESE TIMOR;
 - B) IMMEDIATE NEED FOR CEASE FIRE;
 - C) NEED FOR TIME AND ORGANIZATIONAL WORK BEFORE PROCESS OF SELF-DETERMINATION CAN BEGIN;
- CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USUN N 06891 180328Z

- D) PORTUGAL'S NEED FOR SOME SORT OF U.N. PRESENCE IN TIMOR TO ASSIST IN ARRANGEMENTS FOR SELF-DETERMINATION;
- E) CONFIDENCE THAT THE INDONESIAN ELEMENTS WILL WITHDRAW AS SOON AS FIGHTING BETWEEN POLITICAL PARTIES HAD ENDED;
- F) HOPE THAT THE POLITICAL PARTIES IN PORTUGUESE TIMOR WILL NOW COOPERATE WITH U.N. IN FINDING SATISFACTORY WAY TOWARD DECOLONIZATION;
- G) NEED FOR UNCONFLICTING INFORMATION IN ORDER TO DETERMINE

APPROPRIATE FORM AND DIMENSION OF U.N. INVOLVEMENT AND RIGHT
TIMING FOR THIS INVOLVEMENT;
H) POSSIBLE DESIRABILITY AS FIRST STEP FOR U.N. SECRETARY
GENERAL TO APPOINT SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE TO CONSULT PARTIES
DIRECTLY CONCERNED IN NEW YORK AND ON SPOT WITH VIEW TO RECOMM-
ENDING FURTHER ACTION.

6. GALVAO TELES, IN STRESSING NEED FOR SELF-DETERMINATION,
SAID THAT INDONESIA'S REPRESENTATIVE HAD SOUGHT TO PREJUDGE
MATTERS BY CLAIMING THAT UDT, APODETI AND OTHER GROUPS IN
FAVOR OF INTEGRATION WITH INDONESIA REPRESENT THE MAJORITY
OF THE TERRITORY'S POPULATION. HE ATTACKED INDONESIA'S CALIM
THAT IT HAD INTERVENED "IMPARTIALLY" AND "OBJECTIVELY" IN THE
INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF TIMOR.

7. COMMENT: A) NEXT UNSC MEETING ON PORTUGUESE TIMOR SET
FOR 11:00 A.M. DECEMBER 18, WITH INDONESIA, PORTUGAL, GUINEA
BISSAU, TANZANIA, AND GUYANA INSCRIBED TO SPEAK. B) JAPAN HAS
NOT HAD SUCCESS IN GAINING COSPONSORS FOR ITS DRAFT RESOLUTION.
JAPANESE MISSION BELIEVES, HOWEVER, THAT CIRCULATION OF DRAFT
HAS ENCOURAGED MODERATION. C) GUYANA NOW CONSULTING AMONG
NON-ALIGNED ON NEW DRAFT RESOLUTION. THIS REPORTEDLY
TAKES BOTH PORTUGUESE AND INDONESIANS TO TASK FOR STATE
OF AFFAIRS IN PORTUGUESE TIMOR, CALLS FOR WITHDRAWAL
OF INDONESIAN FORCES, AND ASKS FOR EARLY DISPATCH OF UN EMISSARY.
FRNECH SUGGEST THIS TEXT MAY NEVER SEE LIGHT OF DAY,
SINCE THERE IS REPORTED DISAGREEMENT OVER IT AMONG NON-ALIGNED.
D) U.S., U.K., FRENCH, AND ITALIAN WORKING GROUP (WG) MET AT
WORKING LEVEL DECEMBER 17 AND CONCLUDED THAT CONFIRMED FACTS
ON TIMOR SITUATION WILL BE ESSENTIAL TO CONSIDERATION OF POS-
SIBLE UN PRESENCE IN TIMOR (E.G. UN REPRESENTATIVE, UN TEMPORARY
EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY, UN PEACEKEEPING FORCE, OR CONCEIVABLY
TRUSTEESHIP ARRANGEMENT.) WG NOTED THAT UNGA RES 3485 (XXX)
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PAGE 04 USUN N 06891 180328Z

ON PORTUGUESE TIMOR REQUEST COMMITTEE OF 24 ON DECOLONIZATION
TO SEND FACT-FINDING MISSION TO TERRITORY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
WG EMPHASIZED IN THIS REGARD THAT UNSC SHOULD SEEK DISPATCH
OF UN EMISSARY INDEPENDENT OF COMMITTEE OF 24 MISSION WHO
SHOULD PRECEDE COMMITTEE OF 24 MISSION TO TIMOR AND POSSIBLY
REPORT FINDINGS TO COMMITTEE OF 24 AS WELL AS TO UNSC. WG
FURTHER NOTED THAT, WITH TANZANIA'S PERM REP SALIM INSCRIBED
TO SPEAK IN UNSC DECEMBER 18, SALIM, AS CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE
OF 24, MIGHT SEEK UNSC MANDATE AS WELL FOR COMMITTEE OF 24
MISSION. E) AUSTRALIA'S DEPUTY PERM REP DUNCAN CAMPBELL ALSO
HAS STRESSED TO US GREAT NEED FOR CONFIRMED INFORMATION ON
SITUATION IN PORTUGUESE TIMOR. CAMPBELL HOPED THAT INTER-
NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC) REPRESENTATIVES MAY
SOON GAIN RE-ADMISSION TO TIMOR AND HELP TO FILL THIS VOID. HE
NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT ICRC HAS MET DIFFICULTY IN GETTING BACK.

ICRC NOW TRYING TO CONTACT APODETI AND UDT REPRESENTATIVES IN
NEW YORK AFTER HAVING HAD NO LUCK ELSEWHERE. F) AS TO
POSSIBLE TRUSTEESHIP ARRANGEMENT FOR PORTUGUESE TIMOR, CAMPBELL
SAID AUSTRALIANS TOOK SOUNDINGS TWO MONTHS AGO BUT GOT NOWHERE
WITH PORTUGUESE. HE EMPHASIZED, THOUGH, THAT AUSTRALIA DOES
NOT WANT TRUSTEESHIP RESPONSIBILITIES.
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